

Adams, Hope

From: Adams, Hope
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 7:55 AM
To: 'Grace Strother'
Subject: RE: Uber in South Carolina

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2015

PSC SC
MAIL / DMS

Dear Ms. Strother:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2014-372-T and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Hope H. Adams
Administrative Coordinator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
(803) 896-5122
hope.adams@psc.sc.gov

From: Grace Strother [<mailto:gracedstrother@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Cc: _RegStaff - Complaints Distribution Group
Subject: Uber in South Carolina

Good afternoon. I received an email from Uber stating the PSC ordered the company yesterday to cease operating in South Carolina while it applies for the appropriate certifications. If Uber is indeed obtaining these certifications, I hope the PSC will consider allowing the company to continue operating while the process moves forward.

I am legally blind, and I truly do benefit from Uber's service. The entire experience for me is much more pleasant and dignified than the experience I have with taxis. I've avoided taxis as much as possible because of the slow and often surly service I receive with taxi companies. I feel so much more valued as a rider with Uber, and I often ride up front with the driver, which never happens with taxis. As someone who depends on others for transportation by car, I greatly appreciate the feeling of riding with a friend rather than being hauled around as a customer, even if the latter is actually the case. Also, the response time I've experienced with uber is unmatched by any taxi company, helping me to be nearly as mobile and independent as people who can drive for themselves.

Thank you for your consideration of the needs and preferences of South Carolina's residents, particularly those with disabilities who value choice and dignity in transportation.

Grace Strother
Charleston, SC

Adams, Hope

From: Adams, Hope
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 7:55 AM
To: 'Maria O'Dwyer'
Subject: RE: Right to Ride

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JAN 23 2015

**PSC SC
MAIL / DMS**

Dear Ms. O'Dwyer:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2014-372-T and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

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Sincerely,

Hope H. Adams
Administrative Coordinator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
(803) 896-5122
hope.adams@psc.sc.gov

From: Maria O'Dwyer [<mailto:odwyermaria3@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Cc: _RegStaff - Complaints Distribution Group
Subject: Right to Ride

Dear South Carolina Public Service Commission,

By directing Uber to cease and desist operations, you are not only taking away my right to ride, you are taking away the peace of mind & safety of your citizens. Below are a 2 main reasons I ask you to reconsider:

1. As a female, young adult I've always worried about my safety in cabs because there is absolutely no accountability. Anything can happen in a cab, they can take you anywhere they want, and no one would ever know. They can also take advantage of you in regard to payment (i.e. taking the long route, over charging, "not having a credit card machines.")
2. You are taking away the safe vehicle of otherwise drunk drivers. Before Uber came to SC I witnessed a scary amount of your citizens drunk driving from colleagues to friends to idiots I saw on the road. Post-Uber all of my friends now Uber because they now have a convenient & affordable alternative.

The question really comes down to what you value more. The safety of your people OR compliance with proper levels of insurance.

Respectfully,

Adams, Hope

From: Adams, Hope
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 7:56 AM
To: 'Sonya Thomas'
Subject: RE: re. Uber

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2015

Dear Ms. Thomas:

PSC SC
MAIL / DMS

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2014-372-T and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

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Sincerely,

Hope H. Adams
Administrative Coordinator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
(803) 896-5122
hope.adams@psc.sc.gov

From: Sonya Thomas [<mailto:sobrada10@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Cc: _RegStaff - Complaints Distribution Group
Subject: re. Uber

January 16, 2015

Dear S.C. Public Service Commission,

I am writing as a Uber driver regarding the recent stipulations that have populated for Uber's standings within the State of South Carolina. I am aware that there are regulations they must adhere to. However, I would ask that the P.S.C work in fairness and ease in allowing Uber and their affiliated drivers to quickly regain access on the roads.

Uber has been of great benefit to me on both a financial and professional level. The skills learned interacting with clients and gaining a sense of financial independence are incomparable. In addition, Uber has been an exemplary company to partner with in that they are very professional and helpful.

Needless to say, I have greatly enjoyed working with Uber, have received great reviews from riders, and believe that Uber Drivers, such as myself, as well as riders would be at a great disservice until Uber is operable once again in South Carolina.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sonya Thomas
Uber Driver

Adams, Hope

From: Adams, Hope
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 7:54 AM
To: 'Brett Tompkins'
Subject: RE: SC needs uber!

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JAN 23 2015

Dear Mr. Tompkins:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2014-372-T and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Hope H. Adams
Administrative Coordinator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
(803) 896-5122
hope.adams@psc.sc.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Tompkins [<mailto:btompkin@citadel.edu>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Cc: _RegStaff - Complaints Distribution Group
Subject: SC needs uber!

Please give us uber back. It is far more safer, affordable, convenient, and dependable than normal taxis. Completely irresponsible, unfair, and devastating decision in my opinion and many other South Carolinians.

Brett Tompkins
The Citadel Class of 2015

Adams, Hope

From: Adams, Hope
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 7:54 AM
To: 'Katherine Thomson'
Subject: RE: A plea for Uber Charleston

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2015

Dear Ms. Thomson:

**PSC SC
MAIL / DMS**

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2014-372-T and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

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Sincerely,

Hope H. Adams
Administrative Coordinator
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(803) 896-5122
hope.adams@psc.sc.gov

From: Katherine Thomson [<mailto:thomsonee@g.cofc.edu>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Cc: _RegStaff - Complaints Distribution Group
Subject: A plea for Uber Charleston

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ellie Thomson and I am a freshman at College of Charleston. While I am enjoying my time on campus, I often desire to leave campus whether it be to buy groceries, visit the beach, or see a movie. Doing these activities requires transportation. I have utilized the bus system and find it far more unsafe than an Uber ride. I am around many more strangers and must wait for, sometimes, many minutes at a bus stop with these said strangers. With Uber, I know when the car will arrive and do not have to wait alone wondering when my ride will come. By relying on Uber to transport me, I have become less keen on the idea of "needing" my car here at CofC. The city is overcrowded and parking is a nightmare/highly costly. Uber is an efficient, convenient, affordable alternative to me driving my car from Alabama and purchasing a \$500 parking pass when I can open an app and press "request uberX". Uber allowed me to travel with friends to an Indian restaurant in West Ashley on my birthday! We would not have gone had we only had the taxi system to rely on. I'm young, technology-dependent, and cashless...taxis are not even a consideration to me.

I understand there are many underlying economics and safety issues with Uber, but I

believe the stance the city is taking is not fair. To cease operations is to cease entrepreneurship, change, and convenience. Banning Uber is far too great of a step backward. Let's move forward. Now I and many other peers feel we WILL need our car. I seldom see taxis in this city and will not rely on a rickshaw to transport me to Mount Pleasant to see a movie. If the nexus of all this hullabaloo is the argument that Uber drivers are not purchasing permits, then heck, require they purchase permits! Involve policy makers on this issue! From my experience, there are many positive externalities that stem from Uber: less cars in the overcrowded downtown Charleston, therefore less harmful emissions, safer rides for intoxicated adults, an additional source of revenue for hard-working individuals, and a way for Charleston tourists to get out of downtown and enjoy Foley, Sullivan's, IOP, Boone Hall, Shem Creek, USS Yorktown and the many other attractions the area has to offer.

Uber has set the standard for consumer safety in the Palmetto State. All uberX rides are [insured](#) up to \$1,000,000, which is 20x the \$50,000 required of taxis in the state, and all drivers on the uberX platform must pass [background checks](#) at the county, state, and federal level before they are able to drive on the Uber platform. Uber's commitment to safety exceeds the current state requirements, which is why Uber and loyal customers like me were incredibly surprised and disappointed by the actions of the PSC.

Removing ridesharing from South Carolina harms the tens of thousands of riders who rely on the Uber platform for safe, low-cost rides.

#SCneedsUber.

Let's move forward.

Let's focus on the positive effects of Uber.

Let's cooperate.

Let's not be rash.

Let's not perpetuate South Carolina's reputation of being resistant to change.

Let's think of others.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ellie Thomson

thomsonee@g.cofc.edu